## **American Embassy Brazzaville**

## Warden Message

To: All U.S. citizens in the Republic of Congo

**Subject:** Health Advisory

**No.** 05/2011 **Date:** 24 June 2011

U.S. Embassy Brazzaville, Congo Warden Message – Health Issues June 24, 2011

While overseas, U.S. citizens should always pay careful attention to their health and well being. In the wake of recent Measles and Chikungunya outbreaks in the Republic of Congo, you should follow proper prevention practices and seek appropriate medical evaluation as quickly as possible if you develop suggestive symptoms (see links below).

The Congolese government and the World Health Organization recently announced that more than 800 citizens have contracted **Measles** as the result of a six-month Measles outbreak primarily in Pointe Noire. Since more than 30 people have died, the Government of Congo is currently undertaking an aggressive vaccination campaign. The CDC Web site recommends vaccinations for all children, and reminds adults to make sure their own inoculations are current. For more information on this disease, visit the CDC's Web site: <a href="http://l.usa.gov/jizxOr">http://l.usa.gov/jizxOr</a>.

On June 20, Congolese health officials reported more than 900 cases of **Chikungunya** in Brazzaville. While the Congolese government is initiating mosquito eradication efforts throughout the country, it is wise to wear long clothing and apply mosquito repellents to curb mosquito bites. For more on the virus, visit the CDC's Web site: <a href="http://l.usa.gov/mFf7pY">http://l.usa.gov/mFf7pY</a>.

Please consult a licensed physician in the event of a medical emergency.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the <u>U.S. Embassy Brazzaville web site</u>. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs website</u> where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country Specific Information</u>. If you don't have internet access, we have a call center for updates--1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Brazzaville encourages U.S. citizens to enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> for the most up-to-date security information. Keep all of your information in STEP up to date by maintaining your current phone numbers and email addresses where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The U.S. Embassy is located on Boulevard Denis Sassou Nguesso across from the Blanche Gomez Maternity Hospital. The Consular Section is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and on Fridays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The Consular section can be reached via e-mail at <a href="mailto:BrazzavilleACS@state.gov">BrazzavilleACS@state.gov</a>, and our daytime telephone number is (+242) 06 612-2046. For after-hours emergencies, call (+242) 05 526-0673.